

GERARD O'CONNOR, in another article on Limerick's claim for a university, highlights an interesting parallel between Ireland and Finland

CEMENT LTD. PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIPS, BUT...

...to be commensurate with its...
 ...for children...
 ...industries will take...
 ...concern is more at home...
 ...of Cement Ltd. lies in...
 ...Limerick...
 ...and annual deposits...
 ...Limerick...
 ...its partner...
 ...the...
 ...It is part of...
 ...Another part...
 ...The two...
 ...associated...
 ...Chairman of...
 ...to one of the recent...
 ...of his own...
 ...October, 1960, absent...
 ...the...
 ...was appointed...
 ...Limerick...
 ...of Mr. Donogh O'Malley...
 ...the...
 ...University...
 ...opened...
 ...the first time.

OULU AND LIMERICK.

Now, Oulu, is not as big as Dublin or Belfast, it is considerably smaller than Limerick. Its population is 30,000. Limerick's is over 50,000. The population of Finland is the same as Ireland's—just under four million.

True, the land surface is four times as large but one-third of it is waste, being north of the tree line, and little more of the remainder is forest land and lakes.

Finland has three other universities, all on the coast. They wanted an inland one with a circular coastline. Oulu was the natural choice, as Limerick is for Ireland.

Intensely patriotic and highly educated, the Finns want every boy and girl to use the Hilkey's phrase, "who has the aptitude to have the opportunity of ennobling up the educational ladder." They are a proud people to be free. Living on the edge of the present world, they know that the price of freedom is not only eternal vigilance but the highest possible standard of education for all.

THE FACULTIES AT OULU.

The University includes Philosophy, Law, Theology and Medical Faculties and a Teachers' Training College.

The Philosophical Faculty gives instruction in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Zoology, Botany and Geography. The Faculty of Science (B.Sc., B.Sc. (Hons.), B.Sc. (Hons.)) can be taken. The primary degree takes three years. The licentiate can be taken in five years.

The technical faculty comprises the Departments of Agriculture, Building, Engineering—Industrial and Mechanical, and Engineering—Civil and Architectural. The Faculty of Architecture and Engineering can give the same competence as the corresponding degrees in the Institute of Architects in Ireland.

Now, the only College in Ireland which embraces all these branches of engineering and architecture, Galway and Cork are content to juggle along with their one and two departments. Hence, they were passed over in the pragmatic Mr. Larsen and perhaps with good reason.

MEDICAL FACULTY—NO HOSPITAL.

A Faculty of medicine is essential to a University, and Oulu has such a Faculty. During the first year the students are instructed in the Philosophy of Medicine in the usual Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology. After that they move to the University of Turku. They will continue their studies there until the accommodation for medical training is built. Just imagine the boot of derision that would go up if we in Limerick

...Medical Faculty in...
 ...we have medical...
 ...not...
 ...the post-graduate courses of the...
 ...the D.C.H. The L.M. course is there for the asking.

There was no lack of help in Finland. The University of Helsinki could ask for a new set of buildings, as its own are crumbling and out of date. Kivu could have asked for millions of equipment for its Science and Technological Faculties and so on.

But the Finns are patriotic and unselfish in the true sense. Theirs is the true spirit of fraternity and equality. The hard student who catters through the square in Oulu in hob-nailed boots, woollen trousers tucked into thick socks, knows nothing of class-consciousness there or elsewhere. So the success of Oulu is the success of all the others.

The remaining faculty is the Teachers' Training College. This started as a temporary training college in 1953, but was absorbed into the University in the autumn of 1959. The College, like other in Limerick, trains teachers for elementary and higher elementary schools. The course is two years for the teacher's diploma.

LIMERICK'S NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

Our river is always open. It has been an international port of call for centuries. This is a bound for five months annually, does only a limited coastal trade when open. The Shannon at Tarbert provides the finest natural harbour in the Western Atlantic from Iceland to the Cape of Good Hope. Over a hundred and twenty millions have been spent in deepening and dredging the river at Millford Haven and Rotterdam. The Shannon accommodation is 80,000 tons. The Shannon could accommodate ships of 120,000 tons without spending a penny on dredging or deepening. We have one of the world's great airports at our doorstep. In Helsinki, 200 miles from Oulu, is open for a limited time only, and so on. Even in forestry, timber is the principal source of wealth, the Norwegians grow three times as fast as in Finland. True, it is not as tough as that in Finland, because of the closer annual rings. Neither are we as tough or as self-reliant.

MUST DUBLIN HAVE EVERYTHING?

Dublin surely has appropriated its own share of its merits. On November 1st last we were informed by Dr. Hilkey that the educational buildings grants have been sanctioned since March 3, 1962.

New science building now in course of erection at Beifield, £1,980,195; reconstruction and extension of St. Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, £1,200,000; extension, Kevin St., of the College of Technology, £500,000; new College of Technology, £1,500,000, would cost £1,100,000, cost £230,000. A total of £5,200,000—very much more to come.

Dublin came very far down in the list of counties showing proportion of total population of secondary school age to actual attendance. Limerick is in first place. Clare fourth and Cork fifth. Yet Limerick gets nothing. Every effort is made to shout Limerick's name down. What a sad comment on the attitude of the worthy E.P.S.

TEMPORARY HOUSING.

At present, Oulu University is housed in old buildings in the city. There is an extensive building programme under way, which will include, beside the administrative building and library, separate institutional building for the Philosophical and technical departments. The teachers' training school was practically completed early this year. As the classes expand, they are housed in timber structures readily erected and insulated against the bitter cold

...of Acropolis...
 ...Limerick a vacant...
 ...a disused...
 ...to prevent these...
 ...from being used for...
 ...accommodation. A new...
 ...classroom was erected in...
 ...last week. The cost was...
 ...and the time of erection 7...
 ...of the performance.

The buildings will stand by the river Oulujoki in the heart of the town on grounds presented by the City of Oulu. The plans have been drawn by Dr. Olli Pöyry, Professor of Architecture at the University. The training of the medical students will take place in the University Hospital, which will be built in the next few years on a site also presented by the City of Oulu.

They must have their college in the town because of the intense cold of the long winter. The mean difference in summer and winter temperatures is 60 degrees. Ours is 12 degrees.

POSTSCRIPT.

The description of the University of Oulu, the writer has borrowed extensively from Mr. Anthony Kerr's "Universities of Europe". The quotation from the Bull of Pope Nicolaus is taken from Father Kennedy's "Towards A University."

to case, we can do no better than to quote the authentic voice of the father of Christendom pleading for university education for his children. In 1450, Pope Nicolaus IV founded the University of Glasgow, the opening paragraph of the Bull reads:

Nicolaus, bishop, servant of the servants of God, in everlasting recollection of the foundation. Among the other boons which mortal man can, by God's mercy, acquire in this unstable life, it ought to be counted as by no means least that he can, by unremitting study, obtain the pearl of knowledge which enables him to live nobly and in happiness. Which, by its own intrinsic worth, makes him who possesses it greatly excel him who knows it not and leads him to a clear perception of the secrets of the Universe, which is of efficacious help to the unlearned and raises on high those born in lowly station.

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...Mrs. Margaret Kiely, of Ballylanders townland, who died last month was in her 65th year. The remains were removed to the Church of the Assumption and the prayers were recited by Very Rev. Fr. O'Byrne, P.P. and Rev. Fr. Ryan, C.C. Requiem Mass was celebrated on Christmas Eve by Fr. Ryan and the other priests in the sanctuary were Very Rev. Fr. O'Byrne, P.P., Very Rev. Fr. Lee, P.P. and Rev. Fr. English, C.C. After Mass, the internment took place at the local cemetery and a huge cortege of people, representative of all walks of life, paid a final tribute to a very popular lady. Many Mass cards were placed on the coffin, and the husband and very large family were the recipients of many messages of condolences. The chief mourners were Con Kiely (husband); Patrick, Edward and Liam (sons); Mary, Bridie, Joe, Peggy Kathleen and Alice (daughters).

The late Mrs. Kiely was a woman of sterling qualities. She was hospitable, loving and kind and a very popular lady in the parish. She was wife of Con Kiely, well-known Gael all over Munster. A good and understanding mother to her large and appreciative family, we all trust she gains the final reward.

MRS. L. HARTY.

It was with deepest feelings of sympathy that the people heard of the death of Mrs. Denis Hart, formerly of Ballyfroata, Knocklong, and who died in England. Mrs. Hart, a member of a very old and established family, and her demise is a very severe shock to her husband, family and many relatives and friends.

MR. T. HANNON.

The funeral took place at Killinane with military honours, of Mr. Timothy Hannon, Killinane, who was a member of the Company, 5th Battalion, East Limerick Brigade, I.R.A., and later C.S.M. National Army. The firing party was in charge of Lt. T. Murphy. The last post was sounded by Mr. James John Killinane Brass and Reed Band played appropriate music. He is survived by his wife and ten children.

MR. D. O'CONNELL, ABBEYFEALE.

The death occurred of Mr. Denis T. O'Connell, Caherlane, Abbeyfeale, well-known local farmer and brother of Rev. Cornelius O'Connell who ministers in the Philippine Islands.

The death took place also of Mr. Eileen Harnett, Inch, Abbeyfeale. The deceased lady was a member of a popular local family and was relict of Laurence P. Harnett, farmer.

Happy group of people who attended the annual social of the Co. Limerick Branch of Creamery Managers Association in the Glentworth Hotel.

RECENT DEATHS

MRS. MARGARET KIELY, BALLYLANDERS.

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GIFT FOR PATIENTS

Mr. P. Harnett, Secretary, informed Limerick Health Authority that Miss Cecilia O'Shaughnessy, Teaneck, New Jersey, U.S.A. has forwarded 100 dollars for patients' comforts in St. Joseph's Hospital, Limerick. The Secretary added that Miss O'Shaughnessy has been a constant benefactor to the patients' comforts fund for a number of years, and her kindness in this regard is very much appreciated.

The Chairman (Mr. Barrett) and several members expressed their gratitude to Miss O'Shaughnessy for her constant kindness in sending subscriptions to the patients' comforts fund in St. Joseph's Hospital.